



Oh if my wishes had but wings,  
To you they'd fly and say—  
Be all the joy the season brings  
Your own, this Christmas day

#### Complicated, but Easy.

"How do you get your husband to do what he doesn't want to do when you want him to do it?" "That's easy. I make a big fuss over something he has already done which I didn't want him to do, or I remind him of some thing which I have done which he wanted me to do and I didn't want to do, and soon he is doing what I want him to do just as though he had wanted to do it all along."—Detroit Free Press.

#### Roumania's Great Salt Mines.

Roumania is famous for its salt mines, and could supply all Europe with this commodity for hundreds of years. In some mines the beds are from 600 to 750 feet thick, and at Sarat there is a salt mountain whose sides are quarried with electric machines which cut out blocks each a cubic yard in size, while the fragments are scooped up in steam shovels.

#### Wasted Effort.

Comb and brush in hand, a Pittsfield (Mass.) man sat in front of a mirror and fussed and fumed trying to prevail on a refractory hair to lie down. He resorted to water—then to oil, but all without avail. The hair simply wouldn't behave. Finally he looked a little more closely and discovered that the "hair" was a crack in the plaster behind him.

#### Problem of Health Solved.

More than half of preventive medicine centers around the kitchen. The cook is the arbiter in large measure of the ceaseless battle between life and death. Given good food, pure water, plenty of fresh air, and cleanliness of person; and the problem of good health is solved. With these, all that is further necessary is reasonable hours and exercise.

#### Her Patience About Gone.

Helen was fond of playing outdoors and a series of rainy days had tried her patience severely. She had been sitting by the window hopefully watching for signs of clearing, but the down-pour continued. At last she exclaimed in a tone of mingled reproach and disgust: "Well, God, I should think you would be tired of this yourself."

#### Had to Kick About Something.

"What's the old bun kicking about now?" asked the baker's clerk, as the customer went out. "She says," wrathfully responded the baker, "that the holes in the doughnuts are not as large as they used to be."—Judge.

#### Romances.

Romances are written and read not because they are either true or untrue, but because regardless of actuality they give relief to the unused emotional pressure of our hearts.—George Soule in the New York Republic.

#### He is No Benefactor.

He who allows two weeds to grow where one weed grew before is an everlasting benefactor to mosquito kind, but not much of a civic prides nor promoter of public health in his home town.—Brownsville Herald.

#### Too Much Science.

Mr. Dodds—"I see there is talk of standardizing loaves of bread." Mrs. Dodds—"I wonder how it is going to taste with them doctors putting any more of that food stuff in our food."

#### The Latest Reason.

Teacher—"Now, children, what was the cause of the decline of the Roman empire?" Bright Boy—"I know. It was due to too much militarism on the part of outsiders."—Puck.

#### Your Troubles.

Don't talk about your troubles. If there is nothing else to talk about, get to your room and moan it out to yourself.—Columbus (O.) Journal.

#### Retort Direct.

"My first husband had much better sense than you have." "I can't see it. We were both foolish enough to marry you."—Boston Transcript.

#### Smile Always Gets Results.

Do you know that when your face wears a smile, other people smile, too, without knowing why? Or when you look cross or downcast, other faces become shadowed? It is a fine thing to pass your lightness of heart along, but how about the other? If we are feeling sad, let us try to keep it to ourselves, and not, by an overcast face, pass it on to someone else.—Evangelical Herald.

#### Genius.

How easy it is to be a genius until one has done something. Everybody is a potential genius until he has tried to do something in this world. Wee be to him who does something, for to be understood is to be found out.

#### Of Little Use on the Earth.

There are two kinds of men who never change their opinions—fools and dead ones. The man who will not learn from another is a stiff-necked old moss-back sitting on the tail of progress.

#### Father's Position.

One evening we were entertaining our guests. One of the men took my little brother on his lap. The man said, "What is your father, my little man?" He answered, "A man." The man asked him then what his father did, and he answered: "Just what mamma tells him to do."—Chicago Tribune.

#### Chinese First to Use Paper.

China is credited with having nurtured the genius who first conceived the idea of writing material made from fibrous pulp, and some investigators profess to have found evidence that paper existed in the Celestial Kingdom at least two centuries before the Christian era.

#### All at Your Service.

All the books in the great public libraries are yours, if you can read them. All the paintings in the great galleries are yours, if you can enjoy them. Legal ownership could only enable you to prevent others from using them or empower you to give them up for money.

#### Man-Eating Sharks.

Man-eating sharks are more numerous in the tropical, or south-tropical seas, than in those of the North, but they roam all the seas, and are liable to be found almost anywhere. Sharks are sometimes found off the coast of Maine.

#### Unimportant Theft.

"Too bad about Jiggs. Fancy a man, as Shakespeare says, putting an enemy into his mouth to steal away his brains." "Oh, well, it's only petty larceny in Jiggs' case, anyway."

#### Company Manners.

Wouldn't it be fine if every member of every household wore company manners at all times—acted exactly as if there were company in the house?—Columbus Dispatch.

#### The Difference.

A master baker is he who knows how to make a good loaf of bread. A merchant baker is he who can profitably sell his goods.—Bakers' Weekly.

#### Poor Sort of Good Time.

"De nearest some folks gits to havin' fun," said Uncle Eben, "is to make believe dey's havin' a good time, so's to make somebody envious."

#### Makes for Success.

The talent of success is nothing more than doing what you can do well, and doing well whatever you do, without a thought of fame.

#### To Clean Wall Paper.

An excellent thing for cleaning wall paper is bran filled into cheesecloth bags; also it is better than soap for the bathtub.

#### Error All Too Common.

Too many of us seem to think that when we want to show our independence we must get mad about it.

### DON'T

Handle Your Candle-Lighted Christmas Trees Recklessly

HERE are a few warnings that all Christmas celebrants will do well to observe:

Use electric lights instead of candles wherever possible.

Never leave the children alone with lighted candles.

Remove the curtains when candles are used in windows.

Use asbestos fiber instead of cotton to represent snow.

Use metallic tinsel and not paper on your trees.

Fasten your tree securely, so it will not tip over.

Remove the tree from the house when the needles become dry.

### A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

In the stillness of the midnight,  
In the silence of the Star,  
In the slumber of the white lamb,  
On the hillside, near and far,  
Came the Christ Child to his mother;  
To the humble oxen's stall;  
He, the Babe of Paradise, sweet;  
Lord of Christmas, King of all.

Hush, let not a word be spoken  
Of his sacrifice for men,  
Sleeping from his world of glory,  
To be woman-born; a pen  
Of sweet straw to be his cradle,  
He is ours, just ours, today,  
Mark that mortal smile, that shining  
Of the halo in the hay!

While the palm trees rustle softly,  
While his lullaby, the breeze,  
Croons amid the angels' anthem,  
Which the star-lit heaven cleaves,  
We will claim him ours, our treasure,  
Christmas Babe, and Babe divine,  
Hail, thrice hail, O mystic stranger,  
Nestling in thy straw-filled shrine!  
—Helen Chase, in Brooklyn Eagle.

Remember that he who receives sparingly is oftentimes compensated by enjoying doubly.



I love little girls and boys,  
And I like to bring  
them candies and  
toys:  
So, sleep sound,  
And I'll come around  
To leave you a bundle  
of joys.

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